# SUBJECT: VIETNAM-ERA UNACCOUNTED FOR STATISTICAL REPORT

**BACKGROUND**: The Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Service, and the Department of State report the current numbers of Americans who are unaccounted for in Southeast Asia:

## AMERICANS UNACCOUNTED FOR IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

COMPONENT	COUNTRY OF LOSS						
	VN	VS	LA	CB	CH	TOTALS	
ARMY	9	450	90	24	0	573	
NAVY	262	89	19	0	7	377	
MARINE CORPS	22	173	16	8	0	219	
AIR FORCE	192	155	229	17	0	593	
COAST GUARD	0	0	0	0	0	0	
CIVILIANS	1	20	8	5	0	34	
TOTALS	486	887	362	54	7	1796	
PURSUIT STATUS							
FURTHER PURSUIT	207	489	297	45	4	1042	
DEFERRED	30	44	24	5	0	103	
NO FURTHER PURSUIT	249	354	41	4	3	651	
TOTALS	486	887	362	54	7	1796	

VN = VIETNAM, NORTH VS = VIETNAM, SOUTH CB = CAMBODIA CH = CHINA LA = LAOS

# AMERICAN REMAINS REPATRIATED POST-JANUARY 27, 1973:

TOTAL	850
CAMBODIA	29
LAOS	210
CHINA	3
VIETNAM	608

This change reflects the accounting of one U.S. Army NCO who was missing from Laos.

**U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS**: Since the fall of Saigon in 1975, the U.S. Government has acquired 22837 reports possibly pertaining to Americans in Southeast Asia:

### **SUMMARY OF REPORTS**

FIRSTHAND LIVE SIGHTINGS	1989
HEARSAY SIGHTINGS REPORTS	5281
CRASH/GRAVE SITES	5784
DOGTAGS	9783
TOTAL	22837

- a. Of the 1989 firsthand reports received since 1975, 1942 (97.64%) reports are resolved.
  - 1341 (67.42%) reports were equated to Americans who are accounted for (i.e., PW returnees, missionaries, civilians jailed at various times for violation of Vietnamese codes).
  - 45 (2.26%) reports were correlated to wartime sightings of military personnel or pre-1975 sighting of civilians who remain unaccounted for.
  - 556 (27.95%) reports were determined to be fabrications.
- b. The remaining 47 (2.36%) unresolved firsthand reports represent the focus of the U.S. Government analytical and collection efforts:
  - 43 (2.16%) pertain to Americans reported in a captive environment.
  - 4 (0.20%) reported sightings of Americans in a non-captive environment (i.e. working as truck drivers; married with Vietnamese family).
- c. Since mid-1982, 9783 "dog tag" reports have been received on over 10,000 names.
  - Generally speaking 93% of those names reported are individuals who returned to the U.S. alive
  - 5% correspond to U.S. remains that have been recovered/identified and buried in the U.S.
  - and 2% relate to individuals who remain unaccounted for.
- d. In all instances, dog tag reports receive thorough investigative attention, to include informing the military services of those reports with valid names so next of kin can be advised as appropriate.

The following timeline presents an overview of unresolved firsthand sightings by the year of the sighting:

### TIMELINE: UNRESOLVED LIVE SIGHTING REPORTS

Pre-1976	1976-1980	1981-1985	1986-1990	1991-1995	1996-2000	2001-2005	2006-2010	Total
35	3	0	1	0	4	4	0	47